What is claimed is:

1.   A method for finding the point separation within an asset class population to form two groups of investments whose future relative investment performance can be expected to be cross-cyclical, comprising the steps of:

providing a market benchmark and analysis time period as a plurality of contiguous evaluation and selection time periods;

verifying the adequacy of the market benchmark and analysis time period;

defining members of an asset class as an asset class population;

calculating the relative investment performance of the members of the asset class for each evaluation and selection period;

bisecting the asset class population into two halves through a point of average class risk for each evaluation period ;

determining whether the investment performance of the bisections of asset class population formed in each evaluation period is cross-cyclical in each subsequent selection period;

calculating a correlation coefficient between the pattern of asset class average returns and the pattern of group average investment performance for the population within each of the halves;

maximizing the dissimilarities of correlation with the average returns of the asset class between two groups created by the bisecting of the asset class population; and

appending the class average of average returns for the asset class as calculated over the analysis time period to the record of each member of the class.

2.   The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of:

scaling the correlation coefficient.

3.   The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of maximizing includes calculating a market return for each member of an asset class and assigning the market return to each record of a member.

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4.   The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of bisecting the asset class population into two halves is determined by the following formula:

[dividing-line ret.] = [market-ret.] – (([market-ret.]-[average-average ret.]) * constant{K})

5.   The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

providing a market benchmark and an analysis period made from a plurality of contiguous evaluation and selection time periods;

providing sharper definition to the two halves of investment groups formed;

determining a class average for investment performance;

indicating asset class populations whose evaluation-period investment performance relative to the class average is different;

bisecting the asset class population into two halves for each evaluation time period;

calculating the average standardized difference in investment performance relative to the class average for each half in each subsequent selectiontime period;

selecting a division line to form the two halves that results in the greatest difference between the two halves in terms of size and consistency of their respective selection-period average standardized difference in investment performance relative to the class average;

standardizing the investment risk for each member of an asset class for each evaluation period around their asset class average risk;

calculating the average standardized difference in investment performance relative to the class average for each of the two halves for each selection period within the analysis period; and

determining the strength of investment performance for each member of the asset class.

6.   The method of Claim 5, wherein the step of bisecting the asset class population into two halves is determined by the following formula:

[dividing-line ret.] = [market-ret.] – (([market-ret.]-[average-average ret.]) * constant{K})

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7.   The method of Claim 5, wherein the step of providing sharper definitions further include the steps of:

comparing the selection -period average for standardized difference in investment performance relative to the class average for each of the investment groups; and

calculating the standard deviation of the standardized differential returns for each investment group around its average over the series of selection periods making up the analysis period.

8.   The method of Claim 5, wherein the investment risk for each member of an asset class is standardized for each evaluation period and the step of bisecting the asset class population into two halves is determined according to the following formula:

$$[\text{standardized investment risk}] = [\text{constant}\{K\}]$$

9.   The method of Claim 5, wherein the step of providing sharper definitions further include the steps of:

comparing the selection -period average for standardized differential returns for each of the investment groups; and

calculating the standard deviation of the standardized differential returns for each investment group around its average over the series of selection periods making up the analysis period.

10.   The method of Claim 5, further comprising the step of:

dividing the asset class population into quadrants.

11.   The method of Claim 5, further comprising the step of:

dividing the asset class population in more than four sections.

12.   The method of Claim 11, wherein the more than four sections are contiguous.

13.   The method of Claim 11, wherein the more than four sections are not contiguous.

14.   The method of Claim 11, further comprising the steps of:

dividing the asset class population into 16 sections of the asset class population.

15.   The method of Claim 14, wherein each of the 16 sections hold approximately 6.25 percent of the asset class members.

16.   The method of Claim 11, further comprising the steps of:

calculating the average standardized difference in investment performance relative to the class average for each of the more than four sections for each selection period within the analysis period;

combining into groups those sections that have similar patterns of correlation, strength and consistency of average difference in investment performance relative to the class average over the course of the analysis period.

17.   A method for evaluating differences in the past performance of an asset-class population of book-valued investments, comprising the steps of:

providing a market benchmark and analysis time period made of a plurality of contiguous evaluation and selection periods;

verifying the adequacy of the market benchmark and analysis time period;

defining members of an asset class as an asset class population;

calculating the relative investment performance of the members of the asset class;

bisecting the asset class population into two halves through a point of average class risk for each evaluation period;

determining whether the investment performance of the bisections of asset class population formed in each evaluation period is cross-cyclical in each subsequent selection period;

calculating a correlation coefficient between the pattern of asset class average returns and the pattern of group average difference in investment performance relative to the class average;

maximizing the dissimilarities of correlation with the average returns of the asset class between two groups created by the bisecting of the asset class population; and

appending the class average of average returns for the asset class as calculated over the analysis time period to the record of each member of the class;

providing a market benchmark and plurality of analysis time periods;

providing sharper definition to the two halves of investment groups formed;

determining a class average for investment performance;

indicating asset class populations whose future investment performance relative to the class average is different from the class average;

bisecting the asset class population into two halves for each evaluation time period;

calculating the average standardized difference in investment performance relative to the class average for each half in each subsequent selection time period;

selecting a division line to form the two halves that results in the greatest difference between the two halves in terms of size and consistency of their respective period average standardized difference in investment performance relative to the class average;

standardizing the investment risk for each member of an asset class for each evaluation eriod around their asset class average risk;

calculating the average standardized difference in investment performance relative to the class average for each of the two halves for a selection within the analysis period; and

determining the strength of investment performance for each member of the asset class.

18.   A method for evaluating differences in the past performance of an asset-class population of book-valued investments, comprising the steps of:

constructing an asset class of investments as a population of investments that have exhibited a uniquely similar pattern of investment risk ;

defining an analysis period that is of a length to include a significant portion of a market cycle;

calculating a series of evaluation-period and selection-period performance statistics for the asset class population;

testing to find the correlation, performance and risk axes of the population as revealed during the analysis period;

calculating dividing lines for subsequent evaluation-period populations of the asset class and use the groupings so identified to assign a value to each of the members of the asset class; the assigned value being the expected average performance strength of the investments within each group for a subsequent selection period;

19.   The method of Claim 17, further comprising:

repeating the method with findings of subsequent evaluation-period and selection periods as they become available in the analysis period populations.